

# Parish Report February 2012

## Councillor

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### Warm Homes, Healthy People

The County Council has received £265,000 from the Government to help those who may struggle with fuel payments in the remaining winter months.

The Council will put this money into a number of initiatives that will help those in need cope with the colder weather, they include;

- Borough and district councils will offer advice to anyone struggling to keep warm this winter
- Independent energy advisors will visit households struggling to pay their energy bills to offer advice and install measures to save money and energy
- Suffolk Acre roadshows to promote their good neighbour and community oil buying schemes
- Match funding for Suffolk Foundation's 'Surviving Winter' Appeal to allow other groups to benefit, including children and young people with learning disabilities
- Installation of FREE extreme temperature sensors in vulnerable people's homes
- A befriending service
- A central telephone number (Winter Wellbeing Helpline) people can call for information, advice and support. Tel: 08456 037 686

For more information and links to other resources please head to;  
<http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/PolicingAndPublicSafety/warmhomes.htm> and  
<http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/News/Warmhomes.htm>

### Cabinet Update

The latest Cabinet meeting took place on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January at Forest Heath District Council and passed all of the papers as the recommendations stated.

The main paper on the agenda was the budget for 2012-13, and as this was passed, the recommendations will now go to Full Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> – which I will mention later.

In addition to this paper, there were four reports from the Children and Young People's directorate, all of which were agreed.

If you wish to look at the papers for this meeting, they can be found at this web address;

<http://committeeminutes.suffolkcc.gov.uk/meeting.aspx?d=24/01/2012&c=The%20Cabinet>

The next Cabinet meeting will take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February at the Babergh District Council offices in Hadleigh.

The agenda of the meeting will include;

- Developers guide to infrastructure contributions in Suffolk
- Adult and Community Services New operating model

- Fire and Rescue National Framework for England – Consultation

As usual you members of the public are welcome to attend and ask questions if they have been submitted in advance. If you wish to ask a question please look at this web address to find the relevant details –

<http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/CouncilAndDemocracy/DecisionMaking/PublicSpeakingatMeetings.htm>

#### **Full Council**

As mentioned above the recommendations from the Cabinet regarding the budget will be taken to Full Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February to give all councillors an opportunity to discuss the forthcoming financial year's budget.

Once again members of the public are above to attend and ask questions at the beginning of the meeting as long it has been submitted four days before the meeting starts. More information is available in the link above.

The meeting will take place in Endeavour House in Ipswich and begin at 2pm.

#### **Suffolk Broadband Residents Survey**

The campaign better broadband for Suffolk continues with the launch of a survey for residents, aiming to gather support, information about the current level of internet provision, and the desired speed in the future.

If you wish to complete the survey, and you have access to the internet, head to <http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/broadband>. If you do not have access to the internet, surveys and information will be distributed to parishes and libraries for those to fill in.

In addition to the residential survey, the business survey is still up and running on the website – this is a direct link - <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SuffolkBusinessBroadbandSurvey>

I would encourage you to respond to the survey to ensure that areas that may have poor broadband connections are not forgotten, and we can all benefit from faster internet speeds in the future.

#### **Admissions to schools in 2013/14 – Draft policies consultation**

Suffolk County Council has launched a consultation regarding their policies for admission to schools next year. It includes the admissions policy for community, voluntary controlled, voluntary aided, foundation/trust schools academies and free schools in Suffolk.

You can find the consultation and the policies that the council wishes to implement online at the web address below.

<http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/CouncilAndDemocracy/Consultations/AdmissionsSchoolsConsultation.htm>

In addition to the above consultation, there are a number of others which you may be interested in. Please click the link below to find out more;

<http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/CouncilAndDemocracy/Consultations/Listing.htm>